

## **Press Statement by the Vienna Police**

### Christmas/New Year – Increased Security Measures

Before Christmas, a friendly intelligence service issued information to several European capitals, warning that an attack involving explosives or firearms might occur in places where large numbers of people typically gather between Christmas and New Year.

The information also contains the names of several potential attackers; respective thorough checks and investigations into these potential suspects have so far not yielded concrete or relevant results.

Overall, this is an indication of an abstract, higher than normal danger to security.

It is therefore a matter of course that the Vienna police, as well as police forces all across Europe, have implemented additional security measures, which, apart from the intensive investigations by organizations and offices responsible for state protection, include the following points:

Increased police observation and surveillance of crowded places, particularly at events and transport hubs; Increased identity checks; Standby of emergency services; Increased awareness of potential containers of explosives, such as empty suitcases, bags or bicycle frames; Extensive communication with relevant partners, such as the Wiener Linien, the ÖBB and organizers of Christmas and New Year's events (security meetings will be continued); Adaptation of relevant security strategies; Issuing of general information via the media, asking the public for their understanding for increased police security measures and checks.

The current investigations will be continued in close cooperation with the BVT (Austria's Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution and Counterterrorism).

*Press Release*  
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